

Recycling Electrical or Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

This page provides all the information you would need regarding recycling electrical or electronic equipment.

European customers outside of Germany, please click [here](#).

According to the EU Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), all producers of EEE are liable to finance take-back systems, waste treatment, and recycling of equipment they place on the market, at the end of their lifecycle. Products covered by the WEEE Directive are marked with the crossed-out wheeled bin below, to indicate that they should not be disposed of along with household waste:



What is the WEEE Directive?

Note: If you are an owner of a personal electronic device that is covered by the WEEE Directive such as a computer, mobile phone, camera or other, **you should ensure to erase all personal or confidential data before recycling this device**. Also, make sure to delete any personal or confidential data on any internal storage device such as a memory or SIM card. Amazon EU S.à.r.l is not liable for any data on your device.

If you have purchased your product from a Marketplace Seller, please contact that Seller to know more about the compliance solution they have in place for disposing of your old electronic equipment.

The production of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) is one of the fastest growing fields of manufacturing in the western world. With broad consumer take-up of products in this area, the associated generation of electronic waste is on the rise. In June 2000, the European Commission put forward proposals to address this issue, and in December 2002, these were passed as the EU Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive. Such proposals were updated in the WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU.

The major provisions of the WEEE Directive are:

- All producers (manufacturers, or anyone selling a product on the market in the EU) are liable to pay for take-back, treatment and recycling of end-of-life equipment.
- All producers have the obligation to improve re-use/recycling of WEEE.
- All producers have the obligation to ensure the separate collection of WEEE.
- All producers have the obligation to inform the public about their role in dealing with WEEE.

Why should I recycle my WEEE?

EEE may contain hazardous substances, which if exposed, may have a serious detrimental effect on the environment and human health. That is why all WEEE that you send for recycling will be specifically collected and treated by designated local waste facilities and by licensed WEEE compliance schemes. By ensuring that you dispose of your old EEE according to the new WEEE legislation, you are helping to preserve our natural resources and protect human health.

Learn more about WEEE Recycling [here](#).

Are there any other ways of disposing of my old electronic equipment?

If your old piece of EEE is still functional and/or could be repaired for further use, please consider reusing as the first option, either by donating it to a charitable organization, or by giving it to someone else in need. By extending the lifetime of your old equipment, you are also contributing to the efficient use of resources and avoiding additional waste.

What are Amazon.de's obligations according to the WEEE Directive?

Amazon EU S.à.r.l. is member of the National Register for Waste Electric Equipment ([Stiftung EAR](#)). The National Register for Waste Electric Equipment was founded by producers as their Clearing House (Gemeinsame Stelle), in fulfillment of the Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act (ElektroG). Entrusted with sovereign rights by the Federal Environment Agency (UBA), Stiftung EAR registers the producers of electrical and electronic equipment and coordinates the provision of containers and the pick-up of electrical and electronic waste equipment at the public waste disposal authorities (öRE) across the Federal Republic of Germany (BRD).

As a distributor and importer of EEE, Amazon EU S.à.r.l. must allow its customers to recycle household WEEE. As an internet seller, Amazon EU S.à.r.l. also offers its customers an **old-for-new take-back solution**. If you buy a new electrical or electronic device or equipment, Amazon EU S.à.r.l. will take a similar old product back from you for recycling.

The registry number of Amazon EU S.à.r.l in Germany is: 89633988

In which cases can I return waste electrical or electronic equipment for recycling?

You can return WEEE to Amazon in the following cases:

- If you order electrical or electronic equipment falling under the WEEE legislation from Amazon.de for delivery to a German address, you may return your old equipment to Amazon on a one-for-one and like-for-like basis. This means that we will only accept the take-back of the same type and quantity of equipment as the new EEE you purchase from Amazon.de, for example a toaster for a toaster and a hairdryer for a hairdryer.
- In addition, you can return waste equipment without necessarily purchasing a new unit at Amazon.de, if the returned equipment is not larger than 25 cm in any outer dimensions.

For information on products that fall under the WEEE legislation, please scroll down.

How can I return waste electrical or electronic equipment for recycling?

If your old device cannot be reused, and provided it meets the above conditions, you may send it to recycling center where it will be treated and recycled in an environmentally responsible manner.

- Start by creating and printing a pre-paid label with Deutsche Post / DHL by clicking [here](#).
- Print the pre-paid label and put it on the box with your old item or device.
- The next step is to send your old device to a dedicated collection point. Transport the boxed item to the post office where it can be shipped for free. This option is available for equipment weighing less than 31.5 kg.

If your equipment weighs more than 31.5 kg or is larger than 120 x 60 x 60 cm, please check here for [return option](#).

Another option is to deliver your WEEE to the collection point by yourself. For information about German collection points, please go to: <https://erp-recycling.org/en-de/where-to-recycle/> or <https://www.stiftung-ear.de/en/home>.

For old lamp bulbs from Amazon basic range, these can easily be sent to one of thousands of Lightcycle collection points. This helps save important resources, because approximately 90 percent of the components

of lamp bulbs can be recycled. Collection points in your area can be found [here](#).

How does Amazon EU S.à.r.l. ensure safe disposal of my WEEE?

Through its membership with Stiftung EAR and [European Recycling Platform \(ERP\) Deutschland GmbH](#), Amazon EU S.à.r.l. supports the safe disposal of waste electronic and electrical equipment. Information on public waste disposal authorities (öRE) can be found [here](#).

In this way Amazon EU S.à.r.l. can ensure that WEEE is disposed of by customers in a way that optimizes its re-use and recycling. The recycling and treatment of WEEE itself is part of the producer's obligation under the WEEE Directive.

Where applicable, the prices of EEE items you buy from Amazon.de for delivery in Germany include environmental contributions to this system, to ensure that the WEEE is collected and recycled in a responsible manner.

Which products fall under the legislation and how do I recognise them?

The WEEE Directive divides Electronic and Electrical Equipment into six categories:

- Category 1 - **Temperature exchange equipment** (Refrigerators, Freezers, Equipment which automatically delivers cold products, Air conditioning equipment, Dehumidifying equipment, Heat pumps, Radiators containing oil and other temperature exchange equipment using fluids other than water for the temperature exchange)
- Category 2 - **Screens, monitors, and equipment containing screens having a surface greater than 100 cm²** (Screens, Televisions, LCD photo frames, Monitors, Laptops, Notebooks)
- Category 3 - **Lamps** (Straight fluorescent lamps, Compact fluorescent lamps, Fluorescent lamps, High intensity discharge lamps - including pressure sodium lamps and metal halide lamps, Low pressure sodium lamps, LED).
- Category 4 - **Large equipment** (any external dimension more than 50 cm) including, but not limited to household appliances; IT and telecommunication equipment; consumer equipment; luminaires; equipment reproducing sound or images, musical equipment; electrical and electronic tools; toys, leisure and sports equipment; medical devices; monitoring and control instruments; automatic dispensers; equipment for the generation of electric currents. This category does not include equipment included in categories 1 to 3. (Washing machines, Clothes dryers, Dish washing machines, Cookers, Electric stoves, Electric hot plates, Luminaires, Equipment reproducing sound or images, Musical equipment (excluding pipe organs installed in churches), Appliances for knitting and weaving, Large computer-mainframes etc.)
- Category 5 - **Small equipment** (no external dimension more than 50 cm) including, but not limited to household appliances; consumer equipment; luminaires; equipment reproducing sound or images, musical equipment; electrical and electronic tools; toys, leisure and sports equipment; medical devices; monitoring and control instruments; automatic dispensers; equipment for the generation of electric currents. This category does not include equipment included in categories 1 to 3 and 6. (Vacuum cleaners, Carpet sweepers, Appliances for sewing, Luminaires, Microwaves, Ventilation equipment, Irons, Toasters, Electric knives, Electric kettles, Clocks and Watches, Electric shavers, Scales etc.)
- Category 6 - **Small IT and telecommunication equipment** (no external dimension more than 50 cm) (Mobile phones, GPS, Pocket calculators, Routers, Personal computers, Printers, Telephones)

Glossary

- EEE: Electronic and Electrical Equipment
- WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment): All end-of-life equipment falling under the WEEE Directive (for the specific categories see section "Which products fall under the legislation and how do I recognize them?", above)